

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6627

INFO AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

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AMEMBASSY BANJUL

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

USUN NEW YORK 2134

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMCONSUL MONTREAL

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

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AFDROUGHT

SUBJ: FAO/OSRO SAHEL PLANNING FOR 74/75; DONOR VISITS

REF: A. ROME 11655

B. ROME 11482

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1. SUMMARY. OSRO PROPOSES TECHNICAL EVALUATION TEAMS FOR EACH COUNTRY IN OCTOBER, MULTIDONOR MISSION (MDM) FOR NOVEMBER, ADVANCE FOOD ALLOCATIONS OF 275,000 TONS FOR RECEIPT NOVEMBER THROUGH MARCH, A SHIPPING SCHEDULE DIRECTED TOWARD EFFICIENT UTILIZATION PORT AND INTERNAL MOVEMENT FACILITIES DURING THAT PERIOD, AN INTERNAL LOGISTICS PROGRAM, ADVANCE ARRANGEMENTS FOR AND PURCHASES OF TRUCKS, RETENTION OF SOME UNCOMMITTED FUNDS FOR UNFORSEEN NEEDS WHICH COULD THEN BE MET WITHOUT PROCEDURAL DELAYS, AND REPORT BY WHO/UNICEF ON HEALTH/NUTRITION SITUATION TO BE AVAILABLE FOR MDM. PLAN TO BE DISCUSSED WITH MAJOR DONORS DURING NEXT FEW WEEKS IN PURSUIT AGREEMENT AND COOPERATION ON (A) TIMING, COMPOSITION, TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR MDM (B) SAME FOR TECHNICAL EVALUATION TEAMS (C) PROPOSALS CONTAINED IN CONTINGENCY PLAN FOR ADVANCE ALLOCATIONS (D) FINDS TO PLACE ORDERS FOR TRUCKS.

2. SAHEL PLANNING DOCUMENT EXPECTED TO BE ISSUED IN FEW DAYS TO BE TRANSMITTED TO DONOR COUNTRIES AND ORGANIZATIONS FOR STUDY. IN ABOUT TWO WEEKS OSRO PERSONNEL WILL UNDERTAKE VISITS TO DONOR CAPITALS. WHILE EXPRESSING SOME OPTIMISM WITH RESPECT 1974/75 CROP, DOCUMENT RECOGNIZES NECESSITY FOR CONTINUED EMERGENCY SUPPLY PROGRAM "ALTHOUGH THE AIM SHOULD BE TO PHASE OUT OPERATIONS AS SOON AS CONDITIONS PERMIT." OSRO PREPARED TO CONTINUE ITS ROLE OF HELPING MOBILIZE OUTSIDE RESOURCES, MONITOR SHIPMENTS, IDENTIFY BOTTLENECKS, EXCHANGE INFO AMONG GOVERNMENTS AND DONORS, FILL GAPS PARTICULARLY IN INTERNAL TRANSPORT.

3. BASIC PLANNING APPROACH FOR 74/75 SEASON IS TO ACTIVATE A HIGH LEVEL MULTI DONOR MISSION, WITH WHICH CILSS AND SAHEL GOVERNMENTS SHOULD BE FULLY ASSOCIATED, TO ASSESS VARIOUS REQUIREMENTS. COMPOSITION WOULD INCLUDE ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF EACH MAJOR DONOR, IBRD, UNDP, WFP, FAO, CILSS AND A SENIOR LOCAL OFFICER FROM EACH RESPECTIVE COUNTRY. IF DESIRED, ORGANIZATIONS MAY APPOINT ADDITIONAL OFFICERS TO ASSIST ITS REPRESENTATIVE. MDM SHOULD BE IN FIELD IN NOVEMBER WHICH WILL PERMIT BETTER FIX ON HARVESTS. SCOPE AND NATURE ASSISTANCE REQUIREMENTS NECESSITATES PERCEPTIVE ANALYSIS TAKING INTO ACCOUNT LIKELY WIDE VARIATIONS AMONG COUNTRIES IN CROP PROSPECTS THIS YEAR. IN ORDER FACILITATE THESE ASSESSMENTS, IN OCTOBER TECHNICAL EVALUATION TEAMS, SHOULD EVALUATE 73/74 RELIEF OPERATIONS, IDENTIFY PROBLEMS, UNCLASSIFIED

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WORK WITH GOVERNMENTS TO SEEK SOLUTIONS, ASSESS HARVEST PROSPECTS, SPECIAL NEEDS OF REMOTE AREAS, INTERNAL TRANSPORT DIFFICULTIES ETC. AND DRAW UP WITH GOVERNMENT A DISTRIBUTION PLAN INDICATING QUANTITY REQUIREMENTS WITH SPECIAL ATTENTION TO REMOTE AREAS. TEAMS, ONE FOR EACH COUNTRY (EXCEPT SENEGAL/GAMBIA COMBINED), TO BE COMPOSED LARGELY OF LOCAL REPS IN EACH COUNTRY OF SAME BODIES AS MDM BUT DONORS/ORGANIZATIONS MAY CHOOSE TO DESIGNATE ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL. HOPEFULLY EACH WILL INCLUDE EXPERTS

ON CROP ESTIMATION, AGRONOMY, NUTRITION, TRANSPORT, LOGISTICS AND ECONOMICS. REPORTS OF TECHNICAL TEAMS TO BE PRESENTED TO MDM BY TEAM LEADER TO BE SELECTED BY EACH TEAM FROM MEMBERS NOT RESIDENT IN THE COUNTRY.

4. RECOGNIZING NECESSITY CONTINUED FOOD AID IN 73/74 (PRESENT PROGRAM THEORETICALLY FINISHES END OCTOBER) AND IN ORDER AVOID BUNCHING OF ARRIVALS APRIL-SEPTEMBER, ADVANCE FOOD ALLOCATION FOR ARRIVAL NOVEMBER THROUGH MARCH IS PROPOSED AT TOTAL 275,000 TONS TO BE COMMITTED NOW. OF THIS 110,500 BALANCE OF 73/74 PLEDGES IS CALCULATED TO BE AVAILABLE PLUS 50,000 TONS U.S. ALREADY HAS ANNOUNCED FOR 74/75. FURTHER PLEDGES OF 110,000 ARE REQUESTED. ALLOCATION PLAN INCLUDES ARRIVAL SCHEDULE BY MONTH BY PORT, TAKING ACCOUNT OF PORT AND INTERNAL TRANSPORT CAPACITIES. COUNTRY FIGURES IN THOUSANDS METRIC TONS ARE MAURITANIA 31, SENEGAL 15, GAMBIA 5, NIGER 69.2, CHAD 28, UPPER VOLTA 38.9, MALI 88.

5. PROTECTIVE FOODS CALCULATION INDICATES 57,000 TONS ARE AVAILABLE AS AT NOVEMBER 1 AND NO NEW ADVANCE ALLOCATIONS REQUIRED FOR NOVEMBER-MARCH. SHIPPING SCHEDULES WILL BE DISCUSSED WITH DONORS AND UNICEF.

6. DURING 73/74, BILATERAL DONORS PROVIDED 307 TRUCKS MANY ALREADY DISABLED. OSRO PROPOSES ORDERS BE PLACED FOR 150-200 ADDITIONAL FOUR WHEEL DRIVE TRUCKS ESTIMATED \$6 MILLION INCLUDING SPARES AND MAINTENANCE FOR WHICH DONOR CONTRIBUTIONS SOUGHT.

7. DOCUMENT WILL CONTAIN INDIVIDUAL COUNTRY ANALYSIS AND SCHEDULES, FOR THE "BRIDGING" PERIOD; PROPOSED COMPOSITION, TERMS OF REFERENCE AND PROGRAM OF WORK FOR TECHNICAL TEAMS AND MDM.VOLPE

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